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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/726,785	11/30/2000	Matheus Godefridus Johannus Bel	PHN 17,756	1992

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EXAMINER

SHAPIRO, LEONID

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/726,785

Applicant(s)

BEL ET AL.

Examiner

Leonid Shapiro

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 25 October 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 4 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuruoka et al. (US Patent o. 6,373,190 B1) in view of Bongaers et al. (US Patent No. 5,596,431).

Tsuruoka et al. teaches a display device comprising:

a plate having longitudinal channels and peripheral part, which is adjacent to at least one side of the longitudinal channels, (See Fig. 4, items 41, 42, in description See Col. 5, Lines 3-19); and electrodes exiting the longitudinal channels on the peripheral part, wherein the peripheral part extends in a plane between a bottom plane through the bottoms of the longitudinal channels, channels and a top plane through the top of the longitudinal channels, (See Fig. 4, items 41, 42, in description See Col. 5, Lines 3-19) and each channel has a sloping ramp sloping from the bottom plane to the plane and ending in the peripheral part (See Fig. 4, items 41, 42, in description See Col. 5, Lines 3-19).

Tsuruoka et al. does not teach electrodes disposed in longitudinal channels.

Bongaers et al. shows PALC device with elongated electrodes which extend the full length of each channel (See Fig. 2, items 30-31, in description See Col. 5, Lines 1-6). It have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to incorporate electrodes

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disposed in longitudinal cannels as shown by Bongaers et al. in Tsuruoka et al. apparatus in order to improve channel plate (See Col. 2, Lines 33-37 in Bongaers et al. reference).

2. Claim 5 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. in view of Asano et al. (US Patent No. 6,353,288 B1).

Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. teach about a display device with electrodes are provided at the bottom of the channels and each channel with the central part having a first depth, flanked at least on preferably both sides by a second portion having a reduced depth and fourth portion with the sloping ramp (See Fig. 4, items 41, 42, in description See Col. 5, Lines 3-19).

Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. do not teach about the second and third portion forming a groove in the plate, in which grove a sealing material is provided.

Asano et al. teaches about the grooves and bonding materials (See Fig. 7, items 1,2,13,24, in description See Col. 5, Lines 33-53).

It have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to include grooves with sealing materials as shown by Asano et al. in Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. apparatus in order to provide a separation of the front plate (See Col. 5, Lines 44-53 in Asano et al. reference).

3. Claim 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. in view of French (US Patent No. 6,400,423 B1).

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Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. teaches about manufacturing ribs of a plasma display using a flexible roller-intaglio. (See in description Col. 2, Lines 41-44).

Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. does not show how to use grinding wheels to produce a sloping ramp.

French teaches about channels being formed by mechanical grinding (See Col. 3, Lines 24-26). It have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to incorporate manufacturing method as shown by French in Tsuruoka et al. and Bongaers et al. apparatus in order to provide improved channel plate (See Col. 2, Lines 18-22 in French reference).

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 11/01/02 with respect to claims 4-6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonid Shapiro whose telephone number is 703-305-5661. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m. to 5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4750.

ls
November 15, 2002


BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600